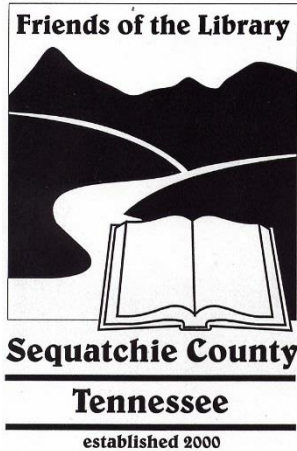


# SEQUATCHIE COUNTY LIBRARY LIGHTS

Summer 2013

June 2013



*A great  
community  
deserves a great  
library.*

**Libraries are important to many, but really special to parents of minor children.**

**How important do parents believe libraries are for their young children? Ninety-four percent of parents of minor children said libraries were “important” and seventy-nine percent said they were “very important.”**

On May 1, 2013, the Pew Research Center released its *Report on Parents, Children, Libraries and Reading*. For those of us who are Friends of libraries anywhere, the report’s findings will be very useful in our advocacy efforts. Government officials, elected or not, can hardly ignore the importance parents, grandparents, or others caring for children attach to libraries’ services to their children. The report in its entirety can be found at this shortened link: <http://bit.ly/17xtyb6>

Although the report is lengthy, it begins with a summary of the findings which constitute the report.

Here are a few interesting points:

Library visits by children

Some 70% of parents report their child visited a public library in the past 12 months and 55% say their child has his/her own library card. Those children who are library visitors did the following:

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87% visited the library to borrow books.

55% went to do school work — and 77% of the children ages 12-17 went to the library for this reason.

46% went to borrow DVDs or CDs.

46% went to attend a library event — and 53% of the children under age 12 went to the library for this reason.

37% went to use the internet — and 43% of the children ages 12-17 went to the library for this reason.

37% went to socialize with their friends.

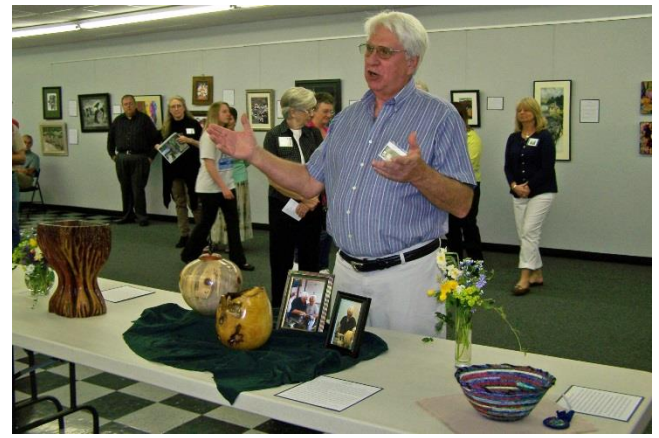
32% went to a library-sponsored book club or program.

Parents themselves are considerably more likely than other adults to use library services

These parental feelings about the importance of libraries for their children are associated with higher levels of library use by the parents themselves. Indeed, the presence of a child or a grandchild in a family is the primary reason cited by the 30% of parents who say their patronage of libraries has increased in the past five years. Compared with other adults who do not have minor children, these parents are more likely to have visited a library in the past 12 months, have a library card, to have visited a library website in the past year, and use a mobile device to connect to a library website.

Why do these parents believe libraries are so important for their children? Eighty-four percent of these parents who say libraries are important say a major reason they want their children to have access to libraries is that libraries help inculcate their children's love of reading and books. Eighty-one percent say a major reason libraries are important is that libraries provide their children with information and resources not available at home. Seventy-one percent also say a major reason libraries are important is that libraries are a safe place for children.

These parents are readers themselves, and, as importantly, they read to their children. Fifty-eight percent of parents of children younger than six read to them every day, and another 26 percent read to them multiple times a week. Readers, especially young ones, are very good news for libraries.



At the 2013 *Art & the Library Exhibition* Mike Elder explains how he creates his beautiful wooden bowls.

### **Where do you go to see the work of talented artists? Dunlap, of course.**

During Valley Fest 2013 over 450 people viewed the art of 48 talented local and regional artists at the annual Art & the Library Exhibition. The exhibition this year was a harmonious mix of artists new to the exhibition and those already favorites of past exhibition visitors.

Coco Dauer, a resident of the Sequatchie Valley for nine years, brought the largest numbers of new exhibitors to the exhibition. Coco never expected to find so many Valley residents hiding a secret artist within, until she invited a few friends to form a once-a-month watercolor klatsch. Very informal in the beginning, word spread and, while still informal, the gathering became more of a teaching session with the participants' skill and confidence increasing more rapidly than she would ever have expected. Many of her students displayed their work at the 2013 Art & the Library Exhibition. What is the first thing Coco teaches her students? "Persistence is far more important than native talent," she says. Even after years of study and work, Coco, a member of the Mountain Art Guild, Inc., and an active member of the Tennessee Watercolor Society, only succeeds through many attempts at her work. "Watercolor can be unforgiving as a medium as you paint from light to dark, but usually a mistake can be worked into a painting, and hopefully will become a happy accident

when all is said and done. If not, you remind yourself that it's only a piece of paper," Coco says, smiling. "You just have to shake off any failures and start again. The first step for the beginner is, of course, dampening the brush, a simple thing, but, if you are intimidated because you believe only those with tremendous natural talent can paint, the brush will stay dry. You will never know the joy of seeing something beautiful or interesting come into being from your vision of it."

The Sequatchie County Friends of the Library sponsors the exhibition, which was first held at the Sequatchie County Public Library and quickly outgrew its location. Last year the exhibition became an event at Valley Fest, which is good for the festival and the artists. Every artist has a story, and visitors to the exhibition can read about the artist and how he or she became an artist, as well as seeing what the artist has produced. Hopefully, more visitors to the show will be encouraged to express themselves through art, and the exhibition will continue to grow. The exhibition could not take place at all without the generous volunteers to who greet visitors and watch over the art during the show and those who help with the reception, and their assistance is gratefully acknowledged.



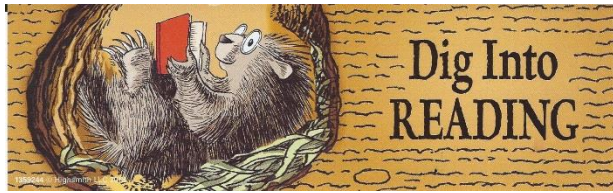
Coco Dauer not only made a contribution to the quality of the exhibition by encouraging new artists to exhibit, she, along with Nina Hunt, and Jane Indyk formed the committee planning and executing the exhibition this year. Bill Colvin and Rick Jacob were a big help when it came time to take the exhibition down.



Linda Howard, the Friends Membership Committee Chair, was one of the "first timers" displaying her very colorful psychedelic lady.



Although not a first time exhibitor, Linda Johnson, a Friends Vice-President, attends Coco's painting classes. Her work, Mr. Ribbit, was a crowd pleaser.



**2013 Summer Reading Theme  
for Children**

On May 31<sup>st</sup>, with the sponsorship of the Cooperative Response Center and the help of their employees and other volunteers, Linda Meck successfully launched the summer reading program at the Dunlap City Training Center. More than 100 children were registered, and Linda’s planning provided many activities the children enjoyed, especially the tunnel she created with materials graciously loaned by the Soil Conservation Service. The children crawled through it using flashlights. As for what the children enjoy most about the incentives, Linda explained she and other library staff members learned a lesson last year. The children love the prizes they can choose from a board for different reading levels even more than spending money. The real incentive, though, is these children love to read.

Folks, the time has come when the Friends need someone to step up and become the group’s volunteer coordinator. The Friends do several important activities each year, primarily the book sales, but also registering children for the Imagination Library program, running the Art Show, and manning a booth at Valley Fest. These activities require someone to contact volunteers and persuade them to be present at scheduled times and places. It is really too much to ask the individual planning and having overall responsibility for a project to schedule the volunteers, too. Interested? Call Lucy Szelengiewicz at 949-7753 or email [lucys@bledsoe.net](mailto:lucys@bledsoe.net). You may, if you prefer leave your name and contact information at the library.



Young man emerging from “tunnel.”



The craft table was hugely popular.



Two readers meet a new Friend.

**The Friends Become “Day Trippers”**

On May 9, 2013, a group of six Friends took a day trip to Tullahoma, Tennessee to view an American Watercolor Society Exhibition on display at the Tullahoma Fine Arts Center. The travelers were Wilda Moss; Robert Lambert; Linda Persohn; Karen Larrimore; Nina Hunt; and Lucy Szelengiewicz. The art was fine, but the prices were a tad out of the range of the travelers’ purses. Visiting the Tullahoma Fine Arts Center was very inspirational because it is a very well maintained and comfortable venue for teaching art, exhibiting it, and selling art by local artists. The Friends agreed it would be wonderful to have such a facility in Sequatchie County. The travelers enjoyed a convivial lunch and agreed to plan more pleasant excursions in the future.

## Join us to read and “talk” books!

A new book discussion group is forming. The first meeting will be July 2nd at 7pm at the Sequatchie County Library. After that, meetings will be the first Tuesday of every month, and the more folks who attend, the better. Discussion will be as lively as the number of different personalities who participate. The evening hour was chosen to permit working members to attend the meetings.

At the first meeting of the group attendees made decisions about how to conduct the group, all of which are very flexible and subject to change, as new members join and contribute their ideas. At each meeting members will offer suggestions about the next book to be selected and choose the book by consensus. At least one copy of the book selected will be available at the library, and group members who purchase the book and finish it early will make the book available in a basket near the Friends office.

The first book selected by the group for July’s meeting is “Quiet: The Power of Introverts in World That Can’t Stop Talking,” by Susan Cain, which is a non-fiction. Quiet shows how dramatically we undervalue introverts, and how much we lose in doing so. Taking the reader on a journey from Dale Carnegie’s birthplace to Harvard Business School, from a Tony Robbins seminar to an evangelical mega-church, Susan Cain charts the rise of the Extrovert Ideal in the twentieth century and explores its far-reaching effects. She draws on cutting-edge research in psychology and neuroscience to reveal the surprising differences between extroverts and introverts. The book is available in hardcover, paperback, e-book and audiobook.

Please help our library by completing the survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/tennesseeresidents>. The survey is to assist the Tennessee State Library with a long range planning project, which their staff describes as “roadmapping.” Essentially, so many changes have happened in libraries and so many changes are likely, libraries need to design for future-ready public libraries, for example decide which services are no longer desired by patrons and what should replace them. Librarians across the state have been asked to encourage patrons to complete a survey. Thank you for doing this for us.

**Lucky enough to be heading to the beach?**  
*Take along some good books, like these newly arrived at the library.*



### Deeply Odd by Dean Koontz

How do you make sure a crime that hasn’t happened yet, never does? That’s the critical question facing Odd Thomas, the young man with a unique ability to commune with restless spirits and help them find justice and peace. But this time, it’s the *living* who desperately need Odd on their side. Three helpless innocents will be brutally executed unless Odd can intervene in time. Who the potential victims are and where they can be found remain a mystery. The only thing Odd knows for sure is who the killer will be: the homicidal stranger who tried to shoot him dead in a small-town parking lot.

### Inferno by Dan Brown

Readers who enjoyed *The Da Vinci Code*, *Angels & Demons*, and *The Lost Symbol*, may like, even better, Dan Brown’s

latest novel featuring Harvard professor of symbology, Robert Langdon. In the heart of Italy, Professor Langdon is drawn into a harrowing world centered on one of history's most enduring and mysterious literary masterpieces . . . Dante's *Inferno*. Against this backdrop, Langdon battles a chilling adversary and grapples with an ingenious riddle that pulls him into a landscape of classic art, secret passageways, and futuristic science. Drawing from Dante's dark epic poem, Langdon races to find answers and decide whom to trust . . . before the world is irrevocably altered.

### **A Chain of Thunder by Jeff Shaara**

On April 9, 1865, Lee surrendered to Grant at Appomattox Courthouse, Virginia. However, Johnston did not surrender to Sherman until April 26, 1865, and on June 2, 1865, Kirby Smith, commander of Confederate forces west of the Mississippi, signed the surrender terms offered by Union negotiators. With Smith's surrender, the last Confederate army ceased to exist, bringing a formal end to the bloodiest four years in U.S. history.

Whatever you may consider the end of the Civil War, many events taking place this year recognize the 150 years which have passed since its end. Those interested in Civil War history can find no better way to look back than Jeff Shaara's new book about the build-up and conclusion of the Siege of Vicksburg, one of the most important victories for the Union forces. This is Shaara's second novel of what has evolved into a four part series following the campaigns in the west. We follow Grant, Sherman, and Bauer--all characters from *A Blaze of Glory*--for the Union, and Pemberton and Lucy Spence for the Confederates. Unlike his previous Civil War novels, Shaara has taken a practice he developed in his WWI and WWII novels and given us the perspective of the front line fighter. And for the first time in any of his novels, he includes a civilian as one of his primary characters. Lucy Spence is one of the many citizens of Vicksburg, and her experiences are gripping and powerful.

### **The Kingmaker's Daughter by Philippa Gregory**

This historical novel features the gripping story of the daughters of the man known as the "Kingmaker," Richard Neville, Earl of Warwick: the most powerful magnate in fifteenth-century England. Without a son and heir, he uses his daughters Anne and Isabel as pawns in his political games, and they grow up to be influential players in their own right. At the court of Edward IV and his beautiful queen, Elizabeth Woodville, Anne grows from a delightful child to become ever more fearful and desperate when her father makes war on his former friends. Married at age fourteen, she is soon left widowed and fatherless, her mother in sanctuary and her sister married to the enemy. Anne manages her own escape by marrying Richard, Duke of Gloucester, but her choice will set her on a collision course with the overwhelming power of the royal family and will cost the lives of those she loves most in the world, including her precious only son, Prince Edward.

### **Secrets from the Past by Barbara Taylor Bradford**

In this emotional novel about one woman's quest to uncover long-buried secrets about her family, thirty year old American photojournalist Serena Stone has already made a name for herself with her unique and dramatic coverage of wars in the Middle East, following in her famous father's footsteps. But after his unexpected death in France, she ends her job at the renowned photo news agency, weary of years of danger. Leaving the front lines behind, Serena returns to New York where she starts work on a biography of her celebrated father. When Serena discovers that her former lover Zachary North is in trouble overseas, she's forced to leave the safety of her new life, and head back to a place she was trying to escape...and her life will never be the same again. As she brings Zac back to health in Venice, she discovers a shocking secret in the archives of her late father's work.

## **Night Watch by Linda Fairstein**

While Alexandra Cooper is in France visiting her famed restaurateur boyfriend, Luc Rouget, one of his matchboxes promoting his new restaurant is found on the body of a murdered young woman. But before the investigation begins, Alex is summoned back to New York. The distinguished and wealthy Head of the World Economic Bureau has been arrested and accused of attacking a maid in his hotel. Alex prepares the alleged victim to testify, but when a second body is found with Luc's matchbox, she begins to fear that the two cases may not be as unrelated as she thought, and that uncovering the sordid secrets of the city's most wealthy and powerful could cost her and her loved ones everything they hold dear.

## **Dead, White, and Blue by Carolyn G. Hart**

Summer is a hectic time of the year for Annie Darling. Sun and scorching temperatures never fail to bring swarms of tourists to her mystery bookstore, Death on Demand, for the latest beach reads. But Annie still finds time to enjoy herself. The Broward's Rock Fourth of July dance is just around the corner, and the island is buzzing with excitement—Shell Hurst included. Shell is the kind of woman wives hate—for good reason—and most of them wish she would just disappear. But when she does, and a teenage girl is the only one who seems to notice, Annie can't help but feel like someone should be looking for her. Last seen walking into the pine trees at the Fourth of July fireworks display, Shell has seemingly vanished without a trace. The residents of Broward's Rock grow uneasy when a second islander mysteriously disappears. Annie and her husband, Max, know something dangerous is brewing.

## **The Blossom Sisters by Fern Michaels**

Gus Hollister owes all his success to his feisty grandmother, Rose, and he knows it. Rose and her two sisters, Iris and Violet, raised Gus, sent him to the best schools, and helped him start his own accounting business. Rose even bought the house Gus lives in with his wife, Elaine. But now, Gus stands to lose everything—his home, his car, and his business. Worse, he's alienated his beloved grandma, who tried to warn him about Elaine's greedy, gold-digging ways. Gus, blinded by infatuation, refused to listen, and now Elaine has locked him out of the house he was foolish enough to put in her name. Heartsick and remorseful, Gus returns to Rose's Virginia farmhouse seeking shelter. But it won't be easy to make amends. With the help of close friends, new associates, and some very sprightly ladies, Gus begins to repair the damage he's done. No matter how daunting starting over can be, the results can surpass your wildest expectations—especially when the Blossom sisters are in your corner.

### **Upcoming Events**

On June 7, a group of Friends will attend the Button Willow Civil War Theatre in Whitwell, TN. This outing is in lieu of the regular June meeting. For more info: [lucys@bledsoe.net](mailto:lucys@bledsoe.net)

On June 14, 7pm CDT, The Friends will sponsor a flag decommissioning ceremony performed by the Boy Scouts at the Veterans Memorial Park on Hwy 28.

The Friends Meetings

Second Tuesday of Every

Month at 4:30pm\*

\*Ask Librarian to confirm meeting date before attending

## LIBRARY HOURS AND INFORMATION

HOURS: Monday, 8am-5:30pm

Tues. & Wed., 8am-5:00pm

CLOSED THURSDAY

Friday, 8am-4:30pm

Saturday, 8am-Noon

Betty Worley,  
Library Director  
Donna Moore,  
Assistant Director

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